

2nd March 1926]

*Adi-Dravida school, Sathiavady.*

\* 1486 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 993 regarding aid to Adi-Dravida school, Sathiavady village, answered at the meeting dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) why the Sathiavady cheri school intended for depressed classes started more than a year ago was not taken up by the Labour department or rendered any help though a resolution was passed on the matter and submitted to Government on the 13th December 1924 by the depressed classes; and

(b) how many pupils are reading in the school?

A.—(a) The school-going population in the Sathiavady cheri and the actual strength of the school are not large enough to justify the taking over of the school by the Labour department.

(b) Thirty-nine.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“With reference to clause (b), may I know what is the minimum number of students that is required?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“About a hundred, I think, Sir.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know whether they appoint any conductors or conductresses in the case of boys' or girls' schools, respectively, to go and bring students? Or, is it the duty of the teachers to go and get hold of students?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I want notice of the question.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know if any scholarships are given?”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Order, order. How does this question arise from the answer?”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“Here, Sir, I have put the question with reference to the strength of the school. Unless there are inducements, it is not at all possible to increase the strength. Therefore, Sir, on that point I want to know whether the Government are granting any scholarships, or giving slates and school books free or offering any such inducements so as to encourage and induce boys to come and join in larger numbers, in order to make up the required number.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“That is a subject for a separate question.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“With reference to the hon. the Home Member's statement that about a hundred students will be required before a school can be taken over by the Labour department, may I know if there are no schools with a less number of pupils which have been taken over by the Labour department?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“If the hon. Member gives notice of the question, I shall give the correct number.”

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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Undoubtedly there are a number of villages where this strength can never be had, and am I to take it that in those villages the Labour department will never think of opening schools?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ What they generally do is this. For taking up a school I think we must have 55 pupils actually reading in it, but we must have a hundred children of school-going age in the locality before we can think of opening a new school.”

#### *House-sites for Adi-Dravidas.*

\* 1487 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 995 answered at the meeting dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) by whom information was given to Government to the effect that owing to faction among the Adi-Dravidas in the Ambattur village, Saidapet taluk, Chingleput district, only five applications were received for house-sites up to the middle of August last;

(b) whether the Government have already received my representation about the Adi-Dravida Conference held on 2nd December 1925 under my presidency in the Ambattur village containing the statements of the Adi-Dravidas of the village denying the answer given in clause (b) of the question No. 995, dated 14th December 1925;

(c) if so, what action the Government intend or propose to take now in assigning the lands for house-sites to the Adi-Dravidas; and

(d) what have become of the petitions that were submitted to the Tahsildar of Saidapet by the members of the depressed classes of Ambattur village for granting them house-sites up to this?

A.—(a) The information was based on the report of the Collector of Chingleput.

(b) Yes. of

(c) The Government have called for a report.

(d) The Government have no information.

#### **Forests.**

##### *Additions to the military grass farm in the Bellary district.*

\* 1488 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the military grass farm was first constituted in the Bellary district, and the reserves or portions of the reserves included in it together with the extent thereof;

(b) the additions since made to it by the Government together with their respective extent, and the years when they were added;

(c) if this information cannot be easily compiled the additions made to the grass farm within the last fifteen years, together with details as to reserve and the year of transfer; and

(d) whether the Government have decided to add yet more land to the farm this year and, if so, which reserve and how much of it?